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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 73
By Atchley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate and honor the East Tennessee Children's Hospital on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, for the past 60 years, hundreds of thousands of sick and injured children in East Tennessee have benefitted from specialized health care by a pediatric medical center close to their homes; and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee Children's Hospital, the only freestanding medical center in Tennessee devoted solely to children, is a private, independent, not-for-profit institution; and

WHEREAS, founded by Dr. Jarrell Penn, an orthopedic surgeon, and fellow Knoxvilleans Henry Galbraith and Oscar Schwarzenburg, Sr. in 1937 as the Knox County Crippled Children's Hospital, the facility first treated polio victims; and

WHEREAS, admissions from counties outside of Knox in the 1940s led hospital officials to change the name to East Tennessee Crippled Children's Hospital, and patients up to 21 years of age with any type of illness were accepted for treatment; and

WHEREAS, when the polio threat began to diminish upon the discovery of a successful vaccine in 1955, the hospital was again renamed, this time to East Tennessee Children's Hospital; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, ground was broken at a property on Clinch Avenue in Knoxville for a new 74-bed, three-story hospital. In February, 1975, a 22-bed fourth floor was completed,

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bringing the hospital's total number of licensed beds to 96. Shortly thereafter, the addition of an Intensive Care Nursery increased the total beds to 122, as it remains today; and

WHEREAS, the Hospital has expanded in the last 17 years to include a 10,000-square-foot Emergency Department, an addition to the patient and administrative towers, renovation of nearly all the existing facility, a new main entrance, and an addition to the Emergency Department to house the Outpatient Clinics; and

WHEREAS, Children's Hospital is the region's premier pediatric medical center, serving over 65,000 children from East Tennessee, southeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia and western North Carolina. Patients and their families rely on Children's Hospital's open door policy that welcomes each child regardless of race, religion or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Children's Hospital actively recruits pediatric specialists in a variety of fields, to aid children being treated in the Pediatric Emergency Department and Trauma Center, the Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care Units, the Outpatient Clinics, Surgical Services, the Medical Units and the Children's Hospital Rehabilitation Center; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, Children's Hospital has operated under the important guideline that children are not small adults. Their needs are unique and diverse. Every element of Children's Hospital's approach to healing--the specially trained staff, sophisticated equipment and cheerful decor--is child-and family-centered; and

WHEREAS, East Tennessee is fortunate to have a resource like Children's Hospital, which has had a significant impact in pediatric health care in Tennessee and in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is privileged to recognize the East Tennessee Children's Hospital for its contributions to the well-being of this state's most precious resource: our youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, That this General Assembly recognizes the East Tennessee Children's Hospital on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary and commends everyone affiliated with the Hospital for their commitment to sick children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.